

# THE DAGLIGTALE

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Issue 3



## The Camrose Open Door: a Valuable Association in our Community

Sara Gloeckler DAG WRITER

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November was:

*Movember*

Thanks for  
fighting Prostate  
Cancer!



Augustana  
remembers:  
Dr. Robert Kell  
1967—2011

The Dagligtale would like to apologize to the Triathlon Club for our inaccurate report of the winning times. They are as follows:

Kelly Bauer: 1:12:40  
Joel Gervais: 1:21:15  
Anna Eriksson:  
1:26:03



Originally an idea started on a paper napkin, the Camrose Open Door has grown from an idea into an organized and secure base for youth who are in need. The agency is a non-profit organization and its focus is on meeting basic needs and offering non-judgmental support for youth ages 11-24. The Open Door operates through four programs: Outreach, Counseling, Peer Connections, and Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Program.

The Outreach program provides individualized support depending on each person's needs, as well as access to emergency housing. The program is focused on short-term care with the intention of helping youth into self-sustainability, rather than offering short-term help and having them go back into a crisis situation.

The philosophy of the Open Door is to be

visible in the community, in order to obtain a certain level of comfort within the client age range. The Open Door has just completed the purchase of a housing facility to provide support to youth who are transitioning from crisis into self-sustainability. A safe place to live is valued at being the first step to success, and getting out of the cycle of crisis. Counseling is offered as clients have specific needs that a professional will be more useful addressing. In these cases, registered psychologists are available a couple days a week to meet with clients.

Peer Connections is an employment project that offers employment opportunities to youth. It runs Cafe Connections, which is a social enterprise; which means the cafe acts like a business but with a social purpose. Youth that stay in the emergency housing, as well as those who need help finding a job are

hired at Cafe Connections to gain experience in a work environment, ultimately leading towards self-sustainability. The Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Program raises awareness about the disorder and many youth who come to the Open Door suffer from FASD.

The said programs are important to the community by helping youth get off the streets and back into the social sector of Camrose. The Open Door has proven itself valuable to Camrose because of its aid in youth's lives. The agency has directly made a difference to local's lives, as individuals have seen positive changes in youths who have gone through the Open Door for help. Executive director, Randal Nickel, states that the value of the Open Door is demonstrated through the many success stories of youth who have gotten back on their feet. There is social and economical cost, which feels like a

prison cell, for an individual who is simply looking for a warm place to sleep.

The most critical way to help the Open Door is to understand how the investments made in the Open Door program directly benefit the social and economic sector of Camrose. Being aware of this problem helps the city to see that cutting social support may have short term benefits, but long-term consequences. Government grants hold 80% of the Open Door's budget which are, unfortunately, never guaranteed, and the other 20% is held through fundraising. For example, Open Door hosted the Harvest Gala: Dinner and Dance, as well as bed-races to raise funds for youth housing support. Events are open to all citizens, and help bring the community together. Undoubtedly, the Open Door is a valuable aspect of Camrose, and an organization we should all be very proud of.

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## Sex, Teens, and the Media

Penny Trayshun-Freud DAG SEX COLUMNIST

What better way to lar basis, go about writing the sex but also column than to use this oral year's theme? I decided that sex is an I should have a chat with entire social event about what they would like in which you and when it comes to gender, sex, and sexuality. I tried bringing it up at mealtimes, in passing conversation, and even once in the bathroom stall. But what I soon found out was that no one wants to talk about sex with me.

I figured that I was being pretty biased because most of my friends and hall mates are girls. I thought it might be a girl thing, so I asked guys that I know how often they talk about sex. I received an interesting story about sexy underwear with buckles and zippers, but nothing about an actual sexual encounter. For a while I was puzzled. Pop culture and the mass media, i.e. *Dr. Phil*, *Oprah*, and *The View*, have been plastering lies about rainbow parties and the like all over the screens of televisions for the past decade or so. Whereas in my rigorous research, I can barely get anyone to talk with me about such things, yet all of television's most trustworthy adults spew nonsense about teenagers and their gruesome sex lives.

Something doesn't quite add up here: most students are such prudes that the furthest sex-talk goes is talking about sex paraphernalia. Yet, adults think that teenagers are so bold as to have blowjob or rainbow parties, suggesting that not only are kids engaging in oral sex on a regu-



lar of people, including some school divisions, feel that virginity and the act of sex are subject to interpretation. For some people oral sex is no different than the traditional idea of sexual intercourse. I'm certain that no group of kids, especially kids who have the good sense to be furthering their education in a fine university such as Augustana, would want to all have sex in front of each other. Why do magazines and television shows still cater to the ideas that the term 'youth' is synonymous with the term 'sexy' and that teens are the ones having all the sex? Then it hit me. Why would media about sex continue in the media if no one wanted to talk about sex? Well because, no teenager wants to talk about sex.

For most teenagers sex is a private matter that we want to be knowledgeable about, but really, I would rather not discuss. For adults or for people with children, sex isn't that big of a deal. But it seems that a lot of teenagers really aren't secure enough with

their sexuality to discuss it openly. This is the reason that *Top Six Bedroom Tips for Him* and tripe of the sort sells to teenagers. Adults exploit the fact that teens are riddled with hormones, and that they don't know how to deal with them, for a profit! Then when teens apply those "Six Tips" to their own lives adults flip out about how much sex kids are having and how they can't understand all of their cockamamie sex games. When shows like *Oprah* or *The View* do episodes about teen sex, every parent everywhere tunes in. They're concerned about their kids allowing the media industry rakes in even more profit! Magazines like *Cosmo* and *Maxim* use sexuality and curiosity to exploit teens. Really, in terms of pure definitions, magazines like those profit on a premise that isn't far off from child pornography.

We leave you with a proposition: talk about sex. Enhance each others knowledge; support each other through difficult times; and don't let adults judge you.

## You: Want to go to the pants party? Me: No!

Kelly Milne DAG EDITOR

I hate pants. Know why? Because they are restrictive. I'm not a feminist or a nudist, but I enjoy having the freedom to bend over without my butt-crack hanging out, or without my jeans splitting open because they're just too gosh-darn tight.

Know what I hate more than pants? Socks. Also restrictive. I'd much prefer having a hobbit's feet, since they have enough hair to keep them warm, and are as tough as any shoe leather.

Alas, my peers sought to convince me that pants and socks are good inventions. Their reasons ranged from feminism to plain old common Canadian winter sense.

One fellow said, "Why not wear skirts?", to which I modestly chuckled. In my metaphorical book of style, which is metaphorically quite slim, skirts are for formal occasions and for summer time, when gale force, -40°C winds are not an everyday happenstance. Skirts just aren't practical in my life.

Another friend raved about the comfort of sweat pants. I agreed, but then pointedly stated that you cannot be taken seriously if you wear sweat pants everyday. You'll look like a bum. Also, sweats are not very flattering on one's body since they stretch over wider areas that do not need highlighting. And elastic waistbands? That's just asking to gain a few pounds (freshmen fifteen anyone?). However, I'm quite comfortable with my body and weight, and pride myself on being neat, clean and pulled together everyday I go out in public. Unfortunately the Dag office is somewhat public, therefore sweats are not an

everyday option. Once in awhile, i.e. laundry or sick days, the sweats will come out.

The bottoms that I do favour are somewhat frowned upon: short shorts. There's nothing better than letting your legs be free to the summer sun, and to have no need for a belt. Another awesome part about summer apparel: bare feet in long prickly, dewy grass, or sunk into hot, exfoliating sand.

So get out of Canada, you might say, since you're so keen on summer. Alas, perhaps you are right, but telling me to leave my homeland is just plain rude. I love winter! Hot chocolate, hot tea, and hot apple cider are excellent. Moccasins, cute colourful parkas, and Olympic mittens also help keep me warm. Rather than going to the beach, you can go screaming down a mountain on a snowboard (or skis, I'll be inclusive but I don't have to like it) and learn what it feels like to break your thumb. Doesn't that happen to everyone? Never mind. Back to the wonders of winter: snowball fights, "cuddling" under the heated blankets, and best of all, Christmas.

How do these fantastic things relate to the problem with pants, you ask? It means that while I'm gritting my teeth and pulling on jeans or Morgan's thermal long underwear, I can remind myself that there are more important things in life that grumbling about weather and style. Going bottomless is incredibly unrealistic. So until I can return to my bare lanky legs and feet in July, I will enjoy liquid chocolate and having time with friends and family over Christmas Break. The end is near folks, good luck, and stay warm!

## Rose City Roots and the lovely Good Lovelies

Sara Gloeckner DAG WRITER

On November 11, Rose City Roots hosted the Juno winning trio, the Good Lovelies, at Scalliwags. Originally from Toronto, Ontario, Caroline Brooks, Kerri Ough, and Susan Passmore are the three voices and musicians who enchanted the audience with their folk-bluegrass sound all evening. They started off their set with a catchy tune, entitled "Kiss Me in the Kitchen", which is featured on their new album *Let the Rain Fall*. Immediately toes were tapping and young adults living together; the refrain had hardly hit and the audience was already clapping along. Audience participation was a big hit with "Every Little Thing", a song similar to Mother Mother's sound, soft and

melodious when the ladies harmonized. The audience connected on with the band when a personal story of how the song was about a long distance relationship was shared. The lyrics "This plane is taking me/far away from you/I'll fly away to day/and won't be coming back too soon" possessed a delicate loneliness. Yet, were encompassed in a hopeful and modest melody.

The Good Lovelies possess the stage presence of the Dixie Chicks; the way they move together in unison, and playing different instruments. The image sets the stage for instant warmth and rapport with the audience. Although, they stand alone in uniqueness and cannot be generically labeled with any comparison.

In Scalliwags, there is an intimate space offered for both musician and listener; the band commented on how the pub didn't have a black light, meaning that eye contact could be made with the audience. Although the band joked about feeling "shy" because they could actually see an individual's reaction, the intimacy inspires a more personal bond with the audience.

"I Want" inspired whoops and cheers with a "Camrose Dance" integrated into the performance. As the band continued to perform, the chemistry onstage grew. Similar to Disney's Country Bear Jamboree, with just as much fun but 100x more talent, the well-crafted mixture of up-tempo and downbeat kept the audience inter-

ested and intrigued with what was to come. The reminder of 30s music coupled with an old English pub atmosphere was welcoming to all different types, and is what Rose City Roots strives to provide to the Camrose community.

Throwing the audience off, they played a Christmas number from their album *Under the Mistletoe*; which the ladies amusingly mentioned, is the same name as Justin Bieber's Christmas album. However, the Good Lovelies had already captured the audience. Another upbeat song followed, uplifting the audience and bringing back the inevitable toe-tapping that the Good Lovelies command.

During the intermis-

sion, I was thrilled to meet with the band members. They shared how excited they were to be playing in Camrose that evening, and to continue their tour around rural Alberta. Brooks, a U of T graduate, said that the band had been playing together for 5 years. Originally solo artists, they had such a magical experience together that they all decided to become a band. It was very apparent how close the band is, because of the chemistry when they played together. I was thoroughly impressed with the Good Lovelies. Their albums are currently featured on iTunes. I would recommend any CD as a perfect Christmas present for a loved one.

## The Meek Shall Inherit: Little Shop has Small Town Charm with Big City Talent

Ally Larson  
DAG WRITER



What do you get when you take a flower shop, throw in a dysfunctional couple, some doo-wop, a sweet little guy named Seymour and a generous helping of a mean green mother from outer space? *Little Shop of Horrors*, of course! Taking place in urban Skid Row, a down-on-his-luck orphan stumbles upon an amazing and horrible discovery during a total eclipse of the sun that will change his life forever.

Okay, let's get serious here - what on earth am I talking about? Well if you don't know, obviously you didn't make it to Bashaw during their run of the musical, *Little Shop of Horrors*. Bashaw's quaint community theatre group packs a punch you wouldn't normally expect from rural Alberta. Talent? Out here in the prairies? You best believe it! Lori Miller, longtime director for Bashaw, decided it was the perfect time to try a riskier script. With the numerous successes they've had in the past and current young talent, I agree with her decision. I had the opportunity of catching opening night, and was tempted to make the snowy trip to go

*Little Shop of Horrors* is the story of Seymour Krelborn, a lovable nobody, an orphan on the streets of Skid Row, who was taken in by Mr. Mushnik, a florist. He and Audrey, the wilted bleach-blond flower (see what I did, there?) battered and bruised by her boyfriend, a sadistic dentist named Orin, work for Mushnik at his shop with little luck in the way of business.

However, Seymour has an idea to save the flower shop and capture Audrey's heart. He brings out little Audrey II, an unknown plant that he found in the wholesale flower district during a total eclipse of the sun. Turns out Audrey II only needs one thing in order to grow: human blood, which must be fresh! Seymour finds himself in a moral dilemma: he must choose if the life he's always wanted (Success! Fame! Love!) is worth taking the lives of others.

Beautifully framed with memorable tunes, thanks to award winners Alan Menken and Howard Ashman, and a healthy heap of camp, thanks to old B-movie makers, *Little Shop of Horrors* will have you out of your seat cheering for more.

It was obvious to me that whoever casted this show knew what they were doing with Coleman Miller as Seymour, Kelsey Johnson as Audrey, Derek Simmers as Audrey II, Damien Scofield as Mr. Mushnik and Kyle Simmers as Orin. At the risk of sounding cheesy, remember these names, because you will see these kids again. It was because of these lead performers that I was brought out of the world of community theatre and into the world of 1960s Skid Row. But all the credit can't go to the actors, like it usually does. The set, the lights, the sound all contributed to an astounding show. Of course a lot of credit also goes to the talented musical director, Robin King, who brought these catchy and moving tunes to life. (Interesting tidbit, Robin is a composer who has recently

worked with our very own Augustana Choir!)

Speaking of sets, let's talk briefly about Mister Audrey II. There were, obviously, creative choices made in the way of the iconic plant. Well, making a larger than life prop/costume/puppet thing doesn't sound like a walk in the park. It wasn't. It took a large team to create the four different plants that made up Audrey II through his stages, and it ended on a very different stage than one ever seen in theatre before.

My opinion? As an avid *Little Shop* fan, it was, at first, a little jarring to see a dude in a plant. There was a dude in a plant! But guys, let that dude open his mouth; I love that dude in that plant. Derek Simmers absolutely killed it as Audrey II. I just stared with my jaw on the floor. If you gave me any other dude in a plant, I'd question your motives. But Mr. Simmers was so believable as evil alien vegetation I wouldn't have had it any other way. Of course the plant makeup and technical design all added to the sheer spectacle of Audrey II. With all these aspects working together, my favorite peoeating-plant really came to life in an unexpected but quickly welcomed way. It was a risk, but the risk definitely warrants large reward.

I suggest keeping your eyes open for more shows coming out of Bashaw, because it is well worth the trip. I also wouldn't say it if it wasn't true. As unexpected as it may seem, these prairie kids know how to hold their own in the world of fine arts.

## What else is there to do on Wednesday besides use your lips?

Elisia Snyder  
DAG WRITER

Here I am at Scalliwags on this Wednesday evening in November. It's quarter to ten, which means that I've been here for about an hour and fifteen minutes. For the past three weeks Scalliwags Open Mic Night has kind of been the Amy Avdeef and Elisia Snyder show. Scalliwags open mic night has the same repertoire of about fourteen songs or so. Every Wednesday, Night.

It wouldn't be so heart breaking if there were more people filling Scalls on Wednesdays at 8:30. But, as it turns out pubs aren't exactly crawling (no pun intended) with people that early on Wednesdays. The same patrons sit through the same set list - may I say it again? - Every Wednesday. Night; which is a shame Scallis is a really cool place.

As its name suggests, Scalliwags is pirate-themed, which is pretty bangin' no matter what belief system you ascribe to (pirates versus ninjas). Scallis isn't overtly pirate themed either. It does not have obnoxious wait staff dressed in pirate costumes asked if "ye are ready to be a makin' yer requests" when they come to take your order. It's just a normal wait staff serving normal, non-pirate themed food. Actually, they have some pretty great beer, cheese toast, onion rings, and mozzarella sticks if you're into that sort of thing.

Most students either stay in their rooms, the library, or the floor lounge if they have to do homework. They go to Old Cinema or Geo's if they don't. The choice shouldn't be limited to the library, scuzzy OCs or

Geo's. I have to admit, I haven't been to Geo's but a sport's themed pub attached to a Smitty's just can't be as cool as a pirate themed pub attached to a local pizza joint.

Not only are the atmosphere and food superb, but the actual Open Mic Night thing is a lot of fun. Open Mic Night starts at 8:30 and has gone until about 11 or so for the past three weeks which, in reality, is not that late and a lot less sticky and loud than going to Old Cinema. If you really wanted to study, or say write a review on Open Mic Night, it's relaxed enough that it's not an impossible task but it's lively enough that you don't want to leave when you walk in the door.

I have been to Scallis a grand total of three times and I already know the owner's name (Mike) and that the waitress knows that when I get there that I'm going to ask for a glass of water. For people with or without talent, it's a really great way to get comfortable performing in front of a crowd.

Best of all, Scalliwags is not particularly far from Augustana. You can Google Map it. There really aren't many reasons to decide not to go.

You can go even if you have a midterm or class at eight in the morning the next day because it's that fun. For students who have full course loads, Open Mic Night isn't just something look forward to and help you push your way through the rest of the week. It's an opportunity for some great mozzarella sticks... I love the mozzarella sticks.

## The Augustana Nordisk Klubb

The Augustana Nordisk Klubb celebrates Augustana's Scandinavian roots and encourages student interest in Scandinavian languages and cultures. This year, we are planning on hosting several Scandinavian film nights, Winterfest, a sledding event with hot chocolate and goodies, and Polarfest, a tribute to the hundredth anniversary of Roald Amundsen's expedition to the South Pole. We are also planning to visit The Lefse House, carol at Rosehaven, and have a Christmas party. Our events are open to club members, Augustana students, faculty, and community members. Our club is made up of snille (nice), hyggelige (friendly) folk - come out to one of our events and see for yourself!



## The Augustana Outdoors Club

Submitted by Emil Cole

The Augustana Outdoors Club is a new group that aims to promote outdoor activities and enjoyment of the outdoors. This year so far we have hosted meetings, an outdoors games night, and watched the movie, *Into the Wild*. More movies, games, snowman building, snowball fights, cross-country ski/snow shoeing afternoon, and attending a clinic to learn how to roll a kayak are all in the works for next term. Everyone is welcome to all events, and to join our Facebook group (search Augustana Outdoors Club), where events are discussed and advertised, as well as a place for people to meet others with similar interests to plan activities outside of the club.

## Deutsch-Club!

Hello all!

My name is Laura Friesen and I am the president of the Augustana German Cultural Club. Yes I know, sometimes the idea of joining a club seems dull and perhaps a bit of a time-consuming activity that you don't have time for. I understand the business of the typical university schedule but this club really can help in the German learning process. Our goal is to help German students learn more about both the German language and the culture. We plan activities throughout the year that are both fun and, wait for it... educational! In October we attended a Lieder Abend. Many more similar activities are planned for the future. Along with excursions we also have bi-weekly German movie nights throughout the entire year. This allows students to better their German as well as meet new people and perhaps make new friends.

*Hallo Alle! Dieses Jahr ist mein erstes Jahr als Deutsch-Klub Präsidentin und ich denke, dass wir in sehr schönes Jahr bei Augustana haben werden! Wir haben immer Deutsches Mittagessen im Forum für alle Deutsche Studenten und Studentinnen! Kommen Sie und sehen was wir tun! (Um 12:30 am Freitag)*

Laura Friesen-Präsidentin  
Dylan Ford-Vize Präsident  
Mark Wrubleski-Schatzmeister  
Travis Kerslake-Sekretär  
Hilfreicher Professor- Faisal Kirumira

*Unsere Exekutive hat viele Events geplant und wir hoffen, dass Sie kommen werden. Von Deutschfilmbanden jede zweite Woche bis zum Deutsche Lieder Club und noch vieles mehr.*

(For more information about this club, you can email me at [lsfriesen@ualberta.ca](mailto:lsfriesen@ualberta.ca))

Bis Später, Laura

## Augustana Climbing Wall Welcomes All

Robyn Sheremeta DAG WRITER



If students are looking for something affordable and fun to do in their spare time, they don't need to look any further. The Augustana Climbing Wall (ACW) is located right on campus, and combines a fun experience with a great workout.

The ACW is located on the Augustana Gymnasium stage. One can access the climbing wall by entering through the Forum, where a door is located between the Cafe and the bookstore. The wall is open Sunday, Monday and Tuesday from 6-8pm, and Thursday from 7-9pm. The wall is closed during sporting events that take place in the gymnasium.

Along with the convenient evening hours, another perk of the ACW is that students, faculty and staff can use it at no charge. If community members wish to climb,

they can pay a small fee of a \$7 drop-in rate, or pay \$40 per semester or \$55 for the whole academic year (children's rates are \$30 and \$40, respectively). Climbing shoes are available to rent for \$1; however, it is simply recommended that participants wear clean, form-fitting athletic shoes or runners.

Along with the proper footwear, participants are advised to wear comfortable clothing, tie long hair back and remove any jewellery.

There are usually about five or six people at the climbing wall on any given night. Four people can climb the wall at one time, which gives participants a bit of a rest between turns.

Climbing can increase a person's muscular strength, endurance, as well as flexibility, since some of the rocks are farther apart than others.

It truly is a great workout that is both conveniently close by, as well as very safe. All participants wear safety harnesses while climbing, and as a result, there have been no accidents.

There are always a couple of trained students working at the climbing wall who are there to assist and supervise whoever is climbing. Fourth-year students Chad Szott and Laura Fraser are the wall managers, and one of them will always be on shift with another student volunteer to oversee activities.

The ACW is also available for private bookings by contacting Cathy Davis, who is the Athletics Administrative Assistant, or search the Augustana Athletics Website for more information.

## On Campus Eco Tips from EARTHWISE

### Christmas:

- Wrap presents in newspaper, newspaper comics, a bag, an old box, or even an old *Daglightle* newspaper!
- Give meaningful gifts that your friends and family will appreciate and not just throw out in a year. For example, gifts that can be experienced such as concert or movie tickets, a homemade dinner or an afternoon spent tobogganing. Chances are your friends and family will like this better.
- Use LED Christmas lights which use less energy and produce less heat.
- Convince your parents to recycle your dead Christmas tree (if it not a fake one). Most towns have a Christmas tree pick up program so that they don't end up in a landfill.

### Laundry:

- For most clothing you only need to use the bright colours cycle which uses cold water. As opposed to the other 2 cycles which use warm and hot water.
- For the dryer try using the delicate cycle which uses less heat. Especially in the dish as the efficient machines don't need as much heat to dry your clothing (sorry 1<sup>st</sup> years).
- Bounce sheets can be used three times before you need to throw them out.
- Recycle your laundry detergent bottles. It may seem like a lot of effort but if you rinse them out and recycle them you save a lot of plastic from being thrown in the garbage.
- Give away your old clothes away instead of throwing them out. The thrift store is just off of mainstreet.

### Food and Drinks:

- Stop buying Disposable waterbottles. Not only are you paying extra for something that is free, waterbottles are a huge waste with all that plastic, not to mention the cardboard flat and plastic wrap that a pack comes in. If you don't like Camrose water, buy a Brita filter and it can make a world of a difference. Plus, tap water in Camrose is safer to drink than bottled water.
- Use a reusable coffee mug, disposable coffee cups can add up to a lot of waste. Most cafés offer a discount, including the forum café.
- Recycle all your beverage containers. There are bins all over campus.
- In the cafeteria don't take food that you will throw out. Ask for a smaller portion and most of the cooks would be more than happy to give you less.
- Check out the farmers market at Duggan mall on Thursdays. You may think it's just for old people but you'd be surprised what you can find.
- Go grocery shopping with reusable bags. You can fit more stuff in the reusable bags and plastic bags never biodegrade, they only turn into smaller pieces of plastic.
- Buy in bulk as opposed to individually wrapped or packaged items.

### Energy:

- Turn off your lights when you leave the room. This includes library study rooms or floor lounges when you're the last one out.
- Turn off your computer or put it to sleep when not using it.
- Turn down the brightness on your iPods, cell-phones and computers. It saves energy and battery life for you!

### AND MOST IMPORTANTLY RECYCLE!! IT IS SO ACCESSIBLE ON CAMPUS.

Have questions about eco-tips or recycling? Feel free to talk to any member of Earthwise. We are a club dedicated to raising environmental awareness, promoting sustainability and an environmentally friendly campus and lifestyle. We brought you Green Your Caffeine and Take Back the Tap last year. Coming soon: be prepared to Flick Off, take the challenge on Buy Nothing Day, get physical during Earth Hour, join in on ugly sweaters, film nights, and many more! Share your ideas with us, and feel free to join in on any or all of our events!

## Chit Chat with the Chaplains Kendra Thevenaz DAG WRITER

On November 18, I spoke with Pastor Craig Wentland, Augustana's Chaplain; Nick Sommer and Nate Chan, who are active Student Chaplains. They had a lot to tell me about their upcoming events and what Chaplaincy is all about.

**KT:** First of all let's get some history of the Chaplaincy. How long has it been a part of Augustana?

**CW:** 101 years. Augustana was founded by Norwegian Lutheran settlers and so it was a faith-based institution. It started out as a high school so there would have always been some sort of Chaplaincy program at Augustana.

**KT:** And how long have you been with the Chaplaincy program?

**CW:** For seven years.

**NC:** This is my first year as a Chaplain.

**NS:** This is my second year as a Chaplain.

**KT:** Christmas must be a very important time for you and your service. Do you have anything coming up/ any special events for the Christmas season?

**CW:** We celebrate Advent, which is a period of preparation for Christmas. One of the things we do is Holden

Evening Prayer. It's a beautiful vesper service with candle light and singing. We have that on Tuesdays at 5:00 before Soup Supper.

**NC:** Also, as Christmas comes, we're going to be doing some caroling with the community. We want to share and be a part of the community. We're going to go to the senior homes and get groups together to go carol there and maybe even have some events where we will go out and shovel people's walks and sing carols to them too. We're also involved with Christmas Presence. We take presence and presents to the downtown East side in Vancouver.

**KT:** Let's talk about the upcoming retreat to Camp Kuriakos in January. What is the usual happenings at the retreat?

**CW:** We have a retreat coming up January 20th to 22nd at Camp Kuriakos on Sylvan Lake. It's open to all students. It's a time of recreation and eating. There's a sauna, a gym, foosball table, and worship. And we always get a guest speaker in. Our guest speaker this year is going to talk on the theme of community. The name of the retreat is *Ackward Conversations*.

**KT:** Have you felt that there has been a large difference in student faith since the

merging of Augustana and U of A in 2004?

**CW:** I think that one of the things that has happened since merger is that Chaplaincy is now a partnership between the university and the church. Part of the reason for this partnership is that the church and the university share a common goal and that is developing personal wholeness. The university recognizes that spiritual wholeness is a component of that and Chaplaincy can contribute to what the university promises to offer. So if anything I would say that the chaplaincy program is much stronger now than it is part of the U of A than it was under church ownership. It's a brave new experiment because usually public universities do not have a Chaplain or a Chaplaincy program that's a part of the university. And so at Augustana, Chaplaincy is a part of what Augustana is.

**KT:** I sometimes hear that students do not want to associate with the Chaplaincy because they feel pressured into faith or stereotype the group. To these students, is there anything you want say to open up their perspective?

**NS:** What I really appreciated about the Chaplaincy program is once you're in the program, you realize it's not necessarily like

that. Obviously there is a religious element to it, but at the same time, there is a lot of room for personal growth and exploration. We welcome people of all different faiths and backgrounds and people who don't identify with any of them, everybody is welcome. There is also a welcoming of people who have different views of what Christianity is for instance, the whole issue of LGBTQ. At Augustana, we have an explicit welcome to people who identify as queer. I've never felt like I had to hide who I am or hide any part of myself because I'm a part of Chaplaincy.

**KT:** On the other hand, for those students interested in getting involved with Chaplaincy, how can one do that?

**NC:** They can come to our services and hear our announcements or come to Soup Supper on Tuesdays.

**CW:** I think they should talk to one of the seven student Chaplains and make a connection.

**NS:** I think all of us would be happy to talk about what we do in the Chaplaincy.

**KT:** What do you think is your most important role either as Chaplain or student Chaplain?

**CW:** I think as chaplain one of my most important roles

is that I wear three hats: I'm a Pastor, a professor, and a counsellor and work with student services. Part of what Augustana is about is that we encourage people to be whole people and I sort of get to officially embody that. Sometimes we compartmentalize our life so I get to try to pull them all together.

**NC:** My biggest characteristic is that I love to get to know people. I love to meet complete strangers and talk to them and get to know them. It's one of the best parts of being a Chaplain because it opens it up for me to lead to that. I strive to create a bond between the community and students to make Augustana a big part of Camrose.

**NS:** I think my most important role is to be a presence of welcome for those who don't feel welcome, particularly for people who identify as LGBTQ because I understand what it feels like not to be welcome. I also serve as a kind of liaison between the Chaplaincy and AQA (Augustana Queers and Allies). Between the two of them, I help to spread awareness of issues.

If you are interested and would like to know more about Augustana's Chaplaincy, you can check out their Facebook page, U of A Augustana Chaplaincy.

## A different kind of gift Kelly Milne DAG EDITOR

What do you think about on Christmas? Family time, presents, good food, maybe a warm fire. Carmelle Mohr has a very different experience...

**KM:** Could you give our readers a description of what Christmas Presence is? **CW:** Christmas Presence (CP) is a non-profit project which provides presence to those living in Vancouver's DTES on Christmas Day. CP is an initiative that began in October 2008. It had been an idea I had had as a kid, but in October of 2008, I discovered that the suicide rate of the district showed an incredible spike on December 25th each year. It was this discovery that made the decision for me.

**KM:** Why Vancouver's Downtown Eastside? **CW:** The DTES is the poorest district in Canada. It is classified as 'extreme poverty', or equivalent to a 'third world nation' within Canada. This district is commonly known as the center of pov-

erty, drugs, prostitution, gang violence, sex trade, and death. (However, there may be no other area in all of Canada with such vibrant community centered on compassionate and fervent activism.) Christmas Day has the highest suicide rate in Vancouver. Most doors that are usually open for meals and shelter close on December 24th and 25th, and I know this to be true as a worker in the area. Christmas Day is the day you go home and spend with your own family. However, this means that on the day that perhaps these services, shelters, kitchens are needed the most, this community is unavailable. It is particularly important that the residents of the DTES know that there are still many people who care about them on Christmas Day. I believe that there is a significant difference between distribution and outreach, therefore; we recognize that we are guest in the DTES and that we offer our company for the day. The intention of CP is to

spend Christmas with those living on the streets, to create a semblance of normalcy to a day that be the loneliest and renew hope.

**KM:** What inspired you to start CP?

**CW:** Growing up in Vancouver exposes you to many things: cultures, religions, avant-garde thinkers, local lifestyles, etc. Most prevalent, however, is the raw distinction between the rich and the poor within the city. I clearly remember the first time I saw the DTES when I was 5 years old. I was confused and saddened by the sight. I had an opportunity to work at a soup kitchen when I was 10 and over the years came to know many of the regular guests to the shelter. During high school years, many of my friends were in and out of their homes and on and off of the streets. These years were when I began to develop a real passion and understanding of the streets and for those who seem to be caught in the vicious circle

of victimization. This, and the fact that most shelters and kitchens close on Christmas day, encouraged me to start this project. It is a small project within a massive and complex social phenomenon. However, I believe that these are the kinds of projects and philosophies that make meaningful impacts.

**KM:** Who have you taken with you? Was their presence helpful?

**CW:** I think of this project as a bridge between those who have little to no experience with homelessness and those who live in this poverty. As this project only takes place one day a year, it is a unique opportunity for those who do not regularly participate in such social programs to do so in a very grassroots and humble way. We recognize that we are guests in the DTES, so we dress humbly, blend in, pack our duffel bags with the gifts that are donated, and walk the alleys alone or in pairs. As I said before, there is a

significant difference between distribution and outreach and it is for this reason that CP operates in this way. This is done by subtly and humbly walking the alleys, making eye contact, smiling or making conversation if it is appropriate, standing alongside in the shelter line, collecting with the man collecting bottles. This project runs with the contributions of over 300 people. We receive generous donations that allow us to also give out physical gifts when appropriate, as though it was a normal Christmas. The people who specifically spend the day on the streets are an eclectic group of mainly local Vancouverites; people that have heard about this project in numerous ways. I never could have imagined that this kind of generosity, participation, and passion from hundreds would evolve out of a simple decision to do something. Originally, all I could think of to do was to spend...

...continued on page 6

...continued from page 5  
 December 25th on the streets as I do all the other days, saying hi, checking in on friends, etc. It is the presence and participation of everyone else that has created this project. The more people that show their care for each other, the better. In other words, yes indeed, their presence is powerful.

**KM:** What do you receive for donations, monetary or otherwise?

**CM:** Last year we received just over \$5000 in monetary donations, hundreds of donated (new) clothing items, and so many cookies... so many cookies. We wrapped roughly 500 gift packages which include socks, mitts, toques, scarves, chocolate bars, oranges, toiletries, baseball caps, jewelry, personal cards, Tim Horton's gift certificates, etc. We also put together roughly 350 bags of amazing homemade baking.

**KM:** Are you ever intimidated by Vancouver's residents' situations? How do you move beyond societal labels and judgments?

**CM:** In my experiences and studies, I believe there are two overarching stereotypes about poverty in this country. And the labels and stereotypes society has given these people are often uneducated, uncompassionate, and most of all based on fear. First, the belief that those who are poor have gotten the lives they have because they are lazy. The reasons for homelessness and poverty are complex and have incredibly little to do with the 'quality', 'character' or 'work ethic' of the person. Indeed poverty is a cycle of victimization – it

calls for compassion, not ignorance. Secondly, there is a fear so inherent in our history: that those who haven't earned it will somehow impoverish us, the wealthy and hard-working. In popular literature, love and hate are often pitted against each other as ultimate opposites. However, perhaps the most ultimate opposite to love is fear. Because fear, unlike hate, terminates any type of engagement with another. I believe it is the disengagement we have with those that are poor that makes poverty everlasting. In the DTES, it is not the people to fear, but rather the situations in which these people find themselves, what those situations enable and force people to do, and the lack of understanding we often have for people who do not live the same way we do.

One of the biggest challenges in urban poverty work is encouraging people to move beyond these stereotypes. And I will be the first to admit that I too can struggle with this. It can be very hard to sit beside a guest at the shelter who has not had the opportunity to shower or brush their teeth in months and speak closely with them, as I would anyone else, without allowing your face to reveal to them their overwhelming stench. I too catch myself. It is easy to judge and to discriminate, consciously or subconsciously, and to focus solely on the problems that only directly influence one's own life. However, it is this mentality that maintains the disparity. It can be difficult to raise awareness of the DTES particularly because many people don't want to hear about it. Accepting a reality like skid row makes you vul-

nerable. It means taking a look at your own life and your own values of humanity. There are also many people who are unaware that the DTES exists or unaware that they can play any part in helping those in need. Some people want to listen to the stories I have to share about my friends downtown, some people don't. But, I refuse to stop talking, for I speak about my friends and family. Your friends and family.

**KM:** What is most rewarding about CP for you?

**CM:** The most rewarding part of CP is to know just how many people contribute to the project. When I am back home, I walk around the alleys checking in on people and making sure my friends are okay for the day. Similarly, the original idea of 'Christmas Presence' was for myself and a few others who work in the area to head down for the day and hang out with those we knew would particularly need some company. Now, to see the donations come in, to read the letters from people that have been moved by the stories of those in the DTES, to see the compassion of hundreds come together across an entire nation is very rewarding. At the same time, organizing a project like this and advocating for this cause, there can be many moments of discouragement. However, the hundreds of personalized Christmas cards that we receive each year from children in schools addressed to 'my friend' in the DTES, remind me of the purpose of this work and its worth. This project does not directly shake the system that maintains these poverty

realities. Rather, it shakes the system indirectly, by creating an opportunity for people of all different economic, cultural, social, situations to come together and acknowledge each other's humanity. By breaking down this wall between ourselves, even just for one moment on one day, we rise above the stigmas, the ideologies, and create a new purpose for ourselves and each other.

**KM:** Over the years of CP, have you learned anything wise you would want to share with our readers?

**CM:** Wisdom is a very accurate word to describe the DTES community. The DTES is above all else a community of strength, wisdom and compassion of which I have never seen paralleled. This community, although its people live in some of the world's worst conditions, has something very important to teach us. It will always amaze me that these hundreds of people with the struggles in their lives, the desperation, will not even think twice about sacrificing their own small share for someone else who needs it more. I have been offered meals, clothes, socks, shelter, from those who do not know who I am and the things I have at home. When given a donation that they do not actually need, many will pass it onto someone else. Not to mention the wonderfully eccentric and out-there personalities! I have learned selflessness and community from those that are perhaps the loneliest and most rejected human being in the world. Christmas Presence is a project that acts as a bridge between those who live in extreme poverty and those

who do not. As such, some of those that participate in the project on December 25th are in fact strangers to the DTES community. Even though they walk through their homes, they often feel welcome. To demonstrate this selflessness, the Vancouver Art Institute put together a great animated clip. I encourage you to check it out on YouTube.

**KM:** Anything else you would like to add?

**CM:** Great questions, Kelly. I would add only this: I have witnessed unparalleled selflessness and community from those that are perhaps the loneliest and most rejected human being in the world. They have something to show us about how to live a meaningful life. I believe this is because without the distractions of wealth and the disease of consumption, a rawer concept of purpose exists. This purpose is the simple knowledge that everyone is connected and that life should be appreciated. When this kind of community arises from conditions we term 'extreme poverty' we must ask ourselves if we measure and discuss poverty with the correct tools. Vancouver's DTES is heart-breaking. I can analyze and study the reasons why poverty exists in such a wealthy country, one that is often known for its compassion. However, I will never understand it. The gap between the rich and the poor is increasing. It is not a question of which side you want to be on, it is a question of what that young woman's name is, where the old man is from, and whose child is the teenager in the corner.

## Augustana Campus Short Form Writing Contest

The Augustana Campus of the University of Alberta is proud to announce its first ever Twitter Short Form Writing Contest. We know you spend time texting and tweeting in class – you might as well make it count. You are invited to submit one individual tweet containing a poem or a short story. Autobiographically, the tweet cannot exceed 140 characters – or to be precise, 134, as they must also include the hashtag #AUGSF (Augustana Short Form). The judges will decide what constitutes a poem or a short story.

### Eligibility:

Entrants must be full-time or part-time students at Augustana in both the Fall 2011 and Winter 2012 semesters. Entrants may submit as many tweets as they wish. Make sure you use the #AUGSF hashtag; otherwise, the judges will not see your tweets. By entering in this contest, you agree to give permission to the judges and University of Alberta, Augustana Campus, to use your entries for whatever purposes they seem fit. Be assured that no money will be made directly out of this contest. After all, Twitter is public.

### Deadline:

Entries will be considered between November 14, 2011 and February 28, 2012, inclusively. Winners will be announced in early March and contacted through Twitter; their status as Augustana students will then be verified.

### Prizes:

Two first place prizes, one for poetry, one for story. For each: a signed hardcover copy of Marina Endicott's new novel, *The Little Shadows* and a signed copy of Roxanne Harde's co-edited volume, *Reading the Bass*. Two second place prizes, one for poetry: a signed copy of Roxanne Harde's co-edited volume, *Reading the Bass*; and one for story: a signed copy of Marina Endicott's novel *The Little Shadows*. First place winners will have their entries appear on the cover of the Daglightle and displayed publicly on campus; second place winners will have their entries appear inside the Daglightle and publicly on campus; winners and honourable mentions will be included on the website.

### Judges:

Marina ENDICOTT (@marinaendicott), internationally renowned novelist and poet, author of *Open Arms*, *Good to a Fault* (winner of the Commonwealth Writers Prize for Canada/Caribbean), and *The Little Shadows*. Instructor of creative writing at the Augustana Campus.

Roxanne HARDE (@RHARDE), maverick literary and cultural critic. Associate Professor of English (nineteenth century, American, feminist, and children's literature) at the Augustana Campus.

John JOHANSEN (@OtisToledo), poet, medievalist and – believe it or not – raconteur. Professor of English (medieval literature and history of grammar) at the Augustana Campus.

Jérôme MELANÇON (@lethejerome), poet, author of *De perdre tes pas* and of an ongoing series of short bilingual poems on Twitter, and indignant phenomenologist. Instructor of political studies and philosophy at the Augustana Campus.



## Q & A with Phil Merklinger

Robyn Sheremeta DAG WRITER

**RS:** So Phil, what is your official role within the Augustana Students' Association?

**PM:** I'm the faculty advisor, [and have been] since the year 2000.

**RS:** Do you need to be re-elected every year?

**PM:** No, but I do need to be re-nominated by the Students' Association. They have the power to choose who they would like to advise them.

**RS:** I see. So they just really like you then.

**PM:** Yeah, apparently! But there is more background to it. Up until 2001, the Students' Association was closely aligned with Student Services (...) and I entered because the current president wanted to make the Students' Association totally independent of Student Services or any of the other formal school institutions, so she asked me if I would help her. We spent the year plotting how to do it, and eventually did it. It had to be ratified the next year and the year after that all of the by-laws had to be [re:] written.

After the Students' Association became independent they did not have to have a faculty advisor at all. They decided that they wanted to have one anyway, but they can always ignore my advice. It really made a great deal of sense, and that's how the relationship has been ever since. It really isn't my place to tell them what to do.

**RS:** In other words, you merely offer guidance.

**PM:** Yes, when they want it.

**RS:** Does the Students' Association come to you for advice quite often?

**PM:** No, but it depends on the executive. So, sometimes there is very little involvement, and other years I've had heavy involvement. There have also been stressful, political years.

**RS:** Oh?

**PM:** A lot of it has had to do with personalities within the executive. Sometimes there would be [personality clashes] or disagreements. Those were the biggest issues. It's different every year. A lot of it has to do with the dynamic of the executive, since they set the

tone. We also had issues when we joined the University of Alberta, such as how to relate to their students' association and so forth.

**RS:** I can imagine that would be an interesting change for the ASA. Was the merger with the U of A stressful for the ASA?

**PM:** It was difficult in a way, because [of the] automatic prejudice that would be two-fold: that is, from coming from a "religious school" (which was really a Lutheran college), and being the "new" faculty.

**RS:** Are there any specific projects that you've helped the ASA with over the years?

**PM:** The period in which we became an independent organization was a major time where I was involved, and it took a lot of persuasion and planning on both my part, as well as the president's.

**RS:** Have there been many other instances where you've been involved?

**PM:** Various initiatives, like the Single Parent Scholarship, and the ongoing relationship with the main cam-

pus have been instances where the ASA has spoken with me a lot.

**RS:** Does the ASA have any specific rules or guidelines that you need to follow?

**PM:** No, not really. I can't vote on decisions that need to be passed, but I can speak and voice my opinion. They are also very fortunate to have Cindy Roose (...), who is the office co-ordinator; [she is] basically the infrastructure, who has a very good idea of what has happened in the past. Between the two of us, we can give a reasonable picture of past events. However, I'm very adamant in my belief of not trying to sway the ASA's decisions in one way or the other. I encourage them to make their own decisions.

**RS:** Here's the big question: do you enjoy being the faculty advisor for the ASA?

**PM:** Actually, yes. It's quite interesting in various ways. One major reason is that there's a whole group of people there that I normally wouldn't get to meet. There's a significant number of students on campus that I will never get to meet, so

interacting with these people gives me a broader sense of the student population. The best part of this job is getting to meet new people.

**RS:** Do you sit in on the monthly ASA board meetings?

**PM:** I will go if I'm invited, but that hasn't been necessary for a while. They're really quite independent, and have come quite far. The group this year is quite active, and work well together.

**RS:** Is there anything in particular that you've noticed about this year's Executive?

**PM:** They're very competent, and they're nice. They're friendly, down to earth, easy to talk to, and are always willing to help when they can, which has not always been the case.

**RS:** I think it's great for students to hear that from you, as well as from the ASA. It's confirmation that all of the members really are approachable, and that they have Augustana's best interests at heart. Thank you very much for your time, Phil!

**PM:** Not a problem; it was nice speaking with you.

## What you had to say

Augustana Chaplaincy SUBMISSION

Our lovely campus has been graced with the existence of a new chalkboard for the last two months. Each Monday a new question appears and as the week goes on, the board collects a record of our thought-out and beautifully written answers but then they are erased to make room for new thoughts. But they aren't gone forever! After a suggestion from the Dean, we started to record all the answers to the latest questions and are taking this opportunity for you to relive the brilliant thoughts.

**Question: What helps you to grieve?**

Singing and dancing Being with loved ones Play Being part of community Letting myself feel, letting myself be angry  
Reading the Silmarillion Laughter Silence Hitting the wall Talk with friends Drinking and sex Walking Music Knowing I'm not alone Giving myself permission to feel emotions when they happen - cry when you feel like it and laugh when the spirit moves me -x11 Running Acting Sustain-a-palooza Pray-x2 Talking Think of ice cream Remembering who they were and how they affected my life Church Jesus Drawing Crying Writing Cutting -thank you for your honesty; if I knew who you were, I would hug and hold you until you didn't feel like you needed to Being with loved ones

**Question: What do you need yourself?**

Success Slice of cake mmm... A vacation Sleep zzz Ability to say no Coming to the next zombie walk Good grades and awesome future Time for myself DQ blizzard Dignity Safe sex To be happy Love A break Forgiveness Patience Time to think Cake Treats The ability to have fun About \$3.50 Confidence

Awesome adventures Faith Respect Honesty A moment Credit Food A drink Safeway cookies Respect Sleep and rest Brains Cheeseburger A high five Zumba The right to be happy An apology Dignity Rest Winter boots \$\$\$ Pride in my achievements, hope for my future

## Musings on Music

Roger Admiral PROFESSOR SUBMISSION

Recently I performed contemporary piano music composed Iannis Xenakis. His music is challenging to listen to, but it can also have a powerful effect on audiences. Some people like his music, some people do not, as it is with all styles of music. Xenakis was trained in advanced mathematics and architecture. Those who do not like his music criticize it as being nothing but mathematics, because he uses algorithms, stochastic constructions, group theory, and parabolic graphs to plan compositions. One could infer from this argument that the use of mathematics in music removes the possible pleasures derived from music.

How are numbers used in the field of music?

In the Medieval university music belonged to the Quadrivium of studies, along with a handful of other topics including mathematics and astronomy. Early music theorists described the interval between two sounds using a mathematical ratio (e.g. 2:1, 3:2, 4:3). These ratios are related to the theory of string division (e.g. plucking a string

produces one sound, but plucking a string that is half that length produces a sound one octave higher.) In the 19<sup>th</sup> century Hermann Helmholtz measured sound as vibrations per second (for example the pitch A below middle-C on a piano can also be expressed as a periodic frequency of 440 cycles per second, or 440 Hz.)

In many current music theory courses, we take a scale (a series of pitches with specific spacing between them) and assign numbers to the individual units of the scale (1-7 or 0-11 depending on the style of music under analysis.) When pitches occur as simultaneities we refer to the individual elements as the 3rd or 5th or 7th of the chord (thereby calling the pitches different numbers from what they would be in a scale.) To distinguish from the Arabic numbers we then label each of these simultaneities (or chords) with Roman numerals. Music theorists use numbers in an effort to analyze and to understand the harmony of music.

Numbers are used in multiples of 2 or 3 units to organize how music

flows in time, at the macro-level of a measure and the micro-level of individual beats; also to measure how fast or slow the music is to be performed. A mechanical device called the metronome was invented to help measure speed (or tempo) as beats per minute (or bpm) One might say that the tempo of a particular composition is "one quarter note equals 80" (the quarter note is a distinct duration, and there would be 80 of them every minute.) A hip hop composer who is laying down the rhythmic part of a pop tune might say, "that track is really cooking at 120 bpm" or, "we're going to take it down and chill at 72 bpm." One equates the number with a mood.

It is impossible to compose music without using numbers. They are tools to help organize an artistic language. We also use words like "high" or "low" to describe musical textures as we see them on the printed page, but there is nothing physically high or low about sound. Music is still intangible, ephemeral and a beautiful mystery.

# Creative Corner

## How to Eat an Apple

By your favourite editor who was plagued by a phenomenon known as high speed braces (elastics not included) for three years until finally they were removed on Nov. 21 of this year. When such devices are glued to your teeth for much longer than they should have been, you tend to stop caring about the quality of said braces. As such, mine have endured the hardships of nuts, crackers, popcorn, carrots, tough meat, gum; in short everything an overpaid orthodontist tells you to avoid.

EXCEPT. The round, delectable, teeth-cleaning flesh that belongs to apples. (I also haven't properly enjoyed corn on the cob for approximately 3 years, but don't get me started on that.) I was in the forum at the beginning of October and realized I had packed an apple but not a knife. To normal people, or those who are not B.I. (Braces Impaired) this is not a problem. For me, it was an obstacle to my hunger. Glancing around furtively, I tried to take a bite. Much to my surprise, I was successful! Knowing that I recently relearned how to chew made this all the more extraordinary. Although my braces soon were disgustingly filled with apple residue, I was pleased as a kindergartner who received a gold star. Underneath that bliss however, lay the grudging respect for overpaid maxillofacial surgeons, and the annoyance of now needing to clean out my braces.

Let them be as humans  
Elisia Snyder

Let them be as humans: peaceful, intelligent. But chained to the Earth. I would rather be a delity: Casting lightning upon specks worthy of a divine spark, Imbibing jealousy, defecating imperfection, and purging failures.

To have fallen on the jaded foot-path of the stars,  
To have lazed with the wild cat,  
And sighed with the laborers,  
Is to have learned the sleight of hand of a street-urchin  
And to have dined with kings.  
They are limited by the confines of the planet.  
Their laws are written and broken by apples.  
They are small; too afraid to even draw into themselves.  
They ooze self pity through the cracks in phony smiles.  
I gaze with disinterest from my home in the clouds and absently wonder at mortality.

I'd rather be alone as I am, save my wings and halo,  
Than human and breakable,  
If I would never learn of hate and greed,  
I would rather be a delity.

## Upcoming Events:

December 2 at 8:30 AM:  
Religion and Public Life  
Café with Allen Berger at Merchants

Dec. 3 at 8:00 PM:  
Dec. 4 at 3:00 PM:  
The Augustana Choir and Sangkor's joint Advent Concerts

Dec. 8: Last Day of Classes

Dec. 16 at 9:00 AM:  
Christmas Coffee in Old Main

Dec. 20: Last Day of Exams

Dec. 28-30:  
Christmas Classic Basketball Tournament

Dec. 31:  
Jason Land Scholarship Deadline

January 8 at 11:00 AM:  
Residences open

Jan. 9:  
Sandy Mactaggart Award Deadline

Jan. 20 at 7:00 PM:  
Jazz and Friends II

Jan. 23 at 12:30 PM:  
Sex, Gender and Sexuality Teaching Seminar

Jan. 26 at 6:30 PM:  
An Evening at the Opera

Jan. 27 at 12:00 PM:  
MunchMUSIC

Jan. 30 at 12:30 PM:  
Sex, Gender and Sexuality Faculty Colloquium

Check out the Faith and Life Lounge most Tuesday nights for Soup Supper! It is usually followed by a prayer service.

Also swing by the gym most weekends for volleyball or basketball games.

## The Little Shadows 'Razzle-Dazzles' Readers Ally Larson DAG WRITER

I found a kindred spirit in my professor the other day - which is one of the many reasons why writing these articles is so lovely. Marina Endicott, English professor extraordinaire, but also author and published author. I may aspire to be this woman when I grow up (I swear I'm not sucking up for an A). Her latest novel is called *The Little Shadows*, which is obviously a labor of love.

*The Little Shadows* takes place during the First World War [1914-18], when Vaudeville is at its peak of dazzling popularity. Readers follow the lives of three sisters and their experience as a musical act during this time, in front and behind the red curtain. If I know anything about Vaudeville (which I do. Don't question my knowledge), there's promise of many outrageous and eccentric characters along the way. This ain't no flitty period piece, folks. Endicott knows her stuff. After about six years of research, who wouldn't?

Of course, the research would mean nothing without the interest behind it. Being an actor, Endicott has a certain devotion to theatre that cannot be faked. During our time together she spoke fondly of the Vaudeville theatres she had toured, and the theatre spaces she adored.

Speaking of theatre spaces she adores, the main inspiration behind *The Little Shadows* is our very own Bailey Theatre - a little Vaudeville glam right here in Camrose!

*The Little Shadows* was published on September 27, 2011. From September 27 until November 5, Marina Endicott had been touring the country and Boston for her writing. Endicott received prestigious invitations to festivals such as the Calgary Word Festival, Vancouver International Writers Festival and the International Festival of

Authors in Toronto, she was a very busy lady. She said she "was only home for seven hours in that time".

I don't throw around the word "prestigious." Endicott had the opportunity to do a stage reading of Alasdair Gray's *Fleck* with several other notable writers, such as Ian Rankin, Guy Vanderhaeghe, and Denise Mina.

But, why take my word for it, dear readers? I am nothing but a lowly *Dagligale* writer. Go pick up a copy of *The Little Shadows* and dive into the entrancing world of per-

forming during the days of Vaudeville.

Endicott knows there is a "big risk in writing about performance." With her passion and devotion to not only the novel but also performing itself, I have no doubt she was able to pull it off what she was striving for: "an interesting and funny book".

There is talk of Marina herself reading from *The Little Shadows* at the Bailey Theatre! Talk about a great opportunity to immerse yourself in Vaudeville culture! Keep your eyes open for news this spring.

## For a Vampire Movie, Breaking Dawn Doesn't Suck

Kendra Thevenaz  
DAG WRITER

On Thursday, November 17, the night before it was meant to be released, I was one of the lucky few that was able to see the premiere of the newest instalment of the Twilight Saga: *Breaking Dawn Part One* at Camrose's Duggan Theatre.

Now I know that most people will be expecting a review bashing the movie and tearing it apart. I'm sorry but I'm going to have to disappoint so those who despise the vampire franchise may want to avert their eyes. My being a fan of the series aside, I went into

the movie with low expectations while keeping a critical and objective eye. Coming out of the movie, I was pleasantly surprised to find that the movie was enjoyable in almost all respects.

Following the example of Harry Potter, the final instalment of the series has been split into two parts. Of course the buzz surrounding the first part has been the focus of Edward and Bella's long awaited wedding and perhaps the even more anticipated sex scene. Both will not disappoint in this movie. The new director,

Bill Condon, has added several original ideas that re-vamp and revitalize the story, adding much more to the viewing experience.

Most will be happy to note that the acting in the fourth movie surpassed all of the first three combined. Although the actors maintained the undeniable and intense love connection throughout the movie, it was not as nauseating as it has been before. Robert Pattinson (Edward Cullen) and Kirsten Stewart (Bella Swan) actually managed to play a more real side of rela-

tionships, showcasing the real-life problems that occur in new marriages. Though both Pattinson and Stewart showed improvement, I was amazed at Taylor Lautner's transformation. He easily portrayed the raw and intense feelings of Jacob Black's character.

However, the movie is not perfect. Because the storyline is split into two, there was a lot of unnecessary emphasis on mundane parts, creating a dragging feeling and making the movie seem longer than it was.